

STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF GMDSS - GREECE

1. Overview

Greece has the responsibility as Issuing Service for METAREA-III and preparation service for METAREA-III (E), providing through SafetyNet™ and NAVTEX meteorological information according to WMO regulations (WMO-No. 558).

2. SafetyNet™

Shipping forecasts for METAREA-III are broadcasted via Inmarsat through CES Thermopylae at 1000 and 2200 (Annex I). France (Météo-France) is a preparation service for METAREA III (W) and Greece (HNMS) for METAREA III(E), respectively. All broadcasts are monitored by HNMS through an Inmarsat-C Tran-receiver.

3. NAVTEX

Forecasts updated every six hours valid for: 0400-1000-1600-2200. International NAVTEX is broadcast via three CRSs at Limnos [L], Heraklion [H] and Kerkyra[K], scheduled as follows:

Herakleio [H]	518 KHz	0110-0510-0910-1310-1710-2110
Kerkyra [K]	518 KHz	0140-0540-0940-1340-1740-2140
Limnos [L]	518 KHz	0150-0550-0950-1350-1750-2150

Gale warnings are broadcasted immediately after issue. From 25 April 2005, HNMS implement abbreviations which were introduced by ETMSS-I.

4. Feedback from users

Regarding SafetyNet™ in general, HNMS has received no negative feedback. Regarding NAVTEX there were no complains regarding the abbreviations implemented.

5. Implementation (experiences – difficulties)

The implementation of abbreviations in NAVTEX bulletins led to elimination of problems regarding the length and overlapping amongst transmissions. The Hydrographic Service, which is the Coordinator of the system in Greece, is pleased with that. Savings after abbreviations came up to 30-35.

ANNEX 1

